

14 WEAPONS SQUADRON



MISSION

LINEAGE

14 Observation Squadron (Light) constituted, 5 Feb 1942

Activated, 2 Mar 1942

Redesignated 14 Observation Squadron, 4 Jul 1942

Redesignated 14 Liaison Squadron, 2 Apr 1943

Inactivated, 25 Mar 1949

14 Air Commando Squadron (Fire Support) constituted and activated, 19 Oct 1967

Organized, 25 Oct 1967

Discontinued, and inactivated, 1 May 1968

14 Liaison Squadron and 14 Air Commando Squadron (Fire Support) consolidated and redesignated 14 Special Operations Squadron, 19 Sep 1985

Redesignated 14 Weapons Squadron, 24 Jan 2003

Activated, 3 Feb 2003

STATIONS

Fort Devens, MA, 2 Mar 1942

Hillsgrove, RI, 20 May 1942

Quonset Point NAS, RI, 9 Jun 1942

Hyannis Muni Aprt, MA, 9 Jul 1942
Rolla, MO, 17 Aug 1942
Tullahoma, TN, 8 Sep 1942
Godman Field, KY, 7 Mar 1943
Camp Campbell AAFld, KY, 25 Jun 1943 (operated from Lebanon, TN, 27 Jun 1943-4 Feb 1944)
Statesboro AAFld, GA, 6 Feb-24 Mar 1944
Alderley Edge, England, 9 Apr 1944
Knutsford, England, 11 May 1944
Ibsley, England, 29 Jun 1944
Nehou, France, 6 Jul 1944
Le Repas, France, 2 Aug 1944
Beauchamps (near Villedieu-les-Poeles), France, 4 Aug 1944
Poilley, France, 7 Aug 1944
St Germain, France, 12 Aug 1944
La Bozoge, France, 15 Aug 1944
Dampierre (near Brou), France, 20 Aug 1944
Courcy (near Pithiviers), France, 25 Aug 1944
St Maurice-aux-Riches-Hommes, France, 30 Aug 1944
Marson, France, 4 Sep 1944
Gussainville, France, 14 Sep 1944
Nancy, France, 12 Oct 1944
Luxembourg City, Luxembourg, 31 Dec 1944
Oberstein, Germany, 27 Mar 1945
Berkersheim, Germany, 3 Apr 1945
Hersfeld, Germany, 11 Apr 1945
Erlangen, Germany, 22 Apr 1945
Regensburg, Germany, 2 May 1945
Holzkirchen, Germany, 23 May 1945
Bamberg, Germany, 10 Jul 1946
Heidelberg, Germany, 10 Feb 1947
Bad Kissengen AB, Germany, 5 Sep 1947
Heidelberg, Germany, 20 Dec 1947
Wiesbaden, Germany, 20 Feb 1948-25 Mar 1949
Nha Trang AB, South Vietnam, 25 Oct 1967-1 May 1968
Hurlburt Field, FL, 3 Feb 2003

ASSIGNMENTS

Air Force Combat Command, 2 Mar 1942
Army Air Forces, 9 Mar 1942
26 Observation Group, 29 Mar 1942
73 Observation (later, 73 Reconnaissance) Group, 7 Mar 1943
I Air Support Command (later, I Tactical Air Division), 11 Aug 1943
US Strategic Air Forces in Europe, 4 Apr 1944

Ninth Air Force, 10 Apr 1944
XIX Tactical Air Command, 25 Apr 1944
XII Tactical Air Command, 4 Jul 1945
70 Fighter Wing, 5 Oct 1945
64 Fighter Wing, 10 Jul 1946
XII Tactical Air Command, 1 May 1947
Bad Kissingen Air Base, 6 Oct 1947
US Air Forces in Europe, 20 Dec 1947
7150 Air Force Composite Wing, 1 Jul 1948-25 Mar 1949
14 Air Commando Wing, 25 Oct 1967-1 May 1968
USAF Weapons School, 3 Feb 2003

ATTACHMENTS

Third Army for operations to 15 Nov 1944
Twelfth Army Group for operations, 15 Nov 1944-26 Jul 1945
Third Army for operations, 26 Jul 1945-7 Jun 1946
US Constabulary for operations, Jun 1946-Aug 1947
Headquarters Command, US Air Forces in Europe, 20 Feb-1 Jul 1948

WEAPON SYSTEMS

L-1A
L-1B
L-4A, 1942-1943
L-5B, 1943-1947
C-78, 1944-1945
AC-47, 1967-1968

COMMANDERS

None (not manned), 2-13 Mar 1942
Maj Augustus Becker, 14 Mar 1942
Capt Joseph S. Cunningham, 10 Nov 1942
Capt Joseph L. McNeil, 8 Jan 1943
Capt Richard Izzard, 1 Mar 1943
Capt Roth R. Morris, 26 Jun 1943
Capt Mason D. Harrell, 11 Jul 1943
Maj Wendell W. Bennett, 23 Feb 1944
Capt Adam C. Blasiolo, 1 Jul 1945
Capt Anthony R. Durante, 27 Oct 1945
Capt Ancel G. Taflinger, 5 Nov 1945 (temporary)
Capt Anthony R. Durante, 15 Mar 1946
Lt Col Bruce C. Down, Aug 1946
Maj Stanley G. Wright, 7 Jul-4 Sep 1947
None (not manned), 5 Sep 1947-25 Mar 1949
None (not manned), 25 Oct-17 Dec 1967

Lt Col Charles W. Hodgson, 18 Dec 1967-1 May 1968
Lt Col Craig J. Walker, May 2008 - Jun 2009

HONORS

Service Streamers

World War II American Theater

Campaign Streamers

World War II

Normandy

Northern France

Rhineland

Ardennes-Alsace

Central Europe

Vietnam

Vietnam Air Offensive, Phase II

Vietnam Air Offensive, Phase III

Vietnam Air/Ground

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers

Decorations

Air Force Outstanding Unit Award with Combat "V" Device

15 Jan-30 Apr 1968

Republic of Vietnam Gallantry Cross with Palm

[15 Jan]-1 May 1968

EMBLEM



14 Observation Squadron approved, 5 Sep 1942



MOTTO

OPERATIONS

Supported US Army maneuvers by flying photo and tactical observation missions, spotting artillery fire, 1942 until early 1944; provided courier service, observation, mail and other liaison services in support of the US Army advance through France and Germany, Jul 1944-May 1945; dropped medical supplies, food, and ammunition to an Army battalion stranded on the Moselle River, Nov 1944; supported the Third Army during the Battle of the Bulge, Dec 1944-Jan 1945; added medical evacuation to its tasks in Apr 1945; supported US occupying forces in Germany, May-Sep 1945.

On August 15, the Office of the Secretary of Defense revised guidelines for additional military deployments to Southeast Asia, authorizing an additional ten AC-47s for Southeast Asia effective October 1967. In line with this, the Air Force directed the 14 Air Commando Squadron (Fire Support) be activated in October 1967 with an authorization of sixteen AC-47s with a mission of providing aerial fire support in defense of USAF forces, including bases, camps, outposts, and hamlets in southern half of country. The 14 Air Commando Squadron, under the command of Lt. Col. Charles A. Hodgson, became operational January 15. Almost at once its AC-47s were tested in the southern half of the country by the Tet offensive. During February, with only thirteen aircraft, the 14 averaged eleven missions and 168,000 rounds expended each night. In the first three months its gunships flew 170 missions in support of troops in contact, 491 in defense of villages, and six in defense of air bases.

The Weapons School Special Operations Forces (SOF) Division first created as Detachment 1, AFSOC/DO on 15 March 2000 at Hurlburt Field, Florida. The unit designation was changed to Detachment 1, 16 Operations Group on 10 August 2000 to align it with the group charged with providing aircraft and personnel who would help build the course. The first two courses, the MH-53 and AC-130, were formally approved in December 2000 and the detachment was recognized as the 12th division of the Weapons School. In August 2002, the unit was

transferred from Air Force Special Operations Command to Air Combat Command and became Detachment 3, USAF Weapons School. In December 2002, a third course, the MC-130, was formally approved. Thus far, the division has graduated 39 Weapons Officers representing 6 different major weapons systems. The SOF Division was redesignated as the 14 Weapons Squadron.

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE ORGANIZATIONAL HISTORIES

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Sources

Air Force Historical Research Agency. U.S. Air Force. Maxwell AFB, AL.